

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/596,753

Examiner

Grigory Gurshman

Applicant(s)

CHRISTENSEN ET AL.

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 7/26/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 June 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-20 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - 2.1 Referring to the independent claim 1, 8 and 15, Rekeita discloses a method and apparatus for intelligent configuration register access on a PCI to PCI bridge (see abstract). Rekeita teaches an apparatus for intelligent configuration register access on a PCI to PCI bridge (38) are provided. A read to configuration information of a connected PCI device (30) is identified. It is then determined whether the connected PCI device (30) is one for which the read should be trapped. If the read should not be trapped, the read is passed on to the connected PCI device (30). If the read should be trapped, the type of PCI device is determined for the connected PCI device (30). Data is then returned representing the configuration information in a format appropriate for the type of PCI device. In one aspect, the configuration information comprises the subsystem ID and subsystem vendor ID of the PCI device (see abstract and Figs. 1 and 5). While Rekeita teaches the PCI to PCI bridge, he does not teach or suggest *each bootable device (PCI) having a respective host bridge associated therewith, each host bridge connecting one of the bootable devices to a host bus.*
 - 2.2 While Rekeita teaches that the configuration information comprises the subsystem ID and subsystem vendor ID of the PCI device, he does not teach that host bridge identification data is stored on the computer readable medium. Referring to the

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instant claims, Kondou teaches the application of the network bridges (see Fig.2).

Kondou teaches a register for storing the equipment ID of the bridge (see column 12, lines 54-58). Kondou, however does not teach or suggest the arrangement of bootable devices within a computer system in a way claimed by Applicant. In particular, Kondou does not teach *a plurality of host bridges, each host bridge connecting a bootable device to a host bus*.

Therefore, the combination of Rekeita with Kondou does not render the instant claims obvious.

3. In view of the reasons presented herein, claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Grigory Gurshman whose telephone number is (571)272-3803. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM-5:30 PM.

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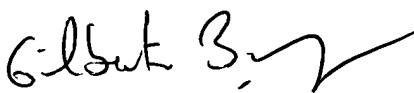
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571)272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Grigory Gurshman
Examiner
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GILBERTO BARRON JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100